

# Items you must know before traveling with a Precision Medical Oxygen Concentrator

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1. Inform the agency that you have made travel arrangements with, that you intend to carry and use a portable oxygen Concentrator during your trip. The carrier will let you know if Concentrators are allowed to be used, and what are the restrictions.

Note: if you are not allowed to use the CONCENTRATOR on the airline, but still want to use it on your travels:

- Carry the CONCENTRATOR and disconnected batteries with you
  - Make sure the CONCENTRATOR is in the off position
  - Stow it securely for the flight
  - Do not place the CONCENTRATOR or the external batteries in your checked luggage
2. The airline must be notified in advance that you will be flying with a FAA approved CONCENTRATOR. Confirm with the Airline that your seat has a power outlet nearby, that you can use to power the CONCENTRATOR during flight. If power is not available, bring enough fully charged batteries to last the entire duration of the flight, plus enough time to cover unexpected delays. It is a good idea to carry your charger with you so that the batteries can be charged before and after the flight.
  3. You must have a signed statement from your physician, stating the following information:  
(A Physicians form is included in this information)
    - How often do you need oxygen, during taxi, takeoff, flight time, landings, or the entire flight
    - The flow rate of oxygen ( liters per minute) you are required to use
    - You or your travel companion must have a working knowledge of the CONCENTRATOR and all the associated alarms. It is necessary to know what is required if alarm situations do occur.
    - You must have personal identification, along with information of the CONCENTRATOR: Model number, Name, and serial number.
  4. If you are traveling by ship, you should notify the agency that you will be traveling with a CONCENTRATOR. There are probably no restrictions, but it is wise to notify them before your trip. Don't assume that AC power is always available during your trip, check first.
  5. If you are traveling by train, they must be contacted 12 hours in advance of your intended travel time, to inform your intent to use the CONCENTRATOR.  
There are probably no restrictions, but have enough battery life to last your entire trip plus some.
  6. If you are traveling by Bus, There are probably no restrictions, but don't assume there is AC power, always bring enough battery life to last your entire trip plus some.
  7. Always fully charge the internal and external batteries of the CONCENTRATOR before your trip.
  8. Make sure the CONCENTRATOR is in good working order before the trip, and has been maintained.
  9. If you need supplemental oxygen at your destination, make arrangements before you travel.

## **Upon arriving at the airport**

1. Upon check in, notify them that you are traveling with a CONCENTRATOR, have your Physicians statement available, and allow inspection of the CONCENTRATOR, accessories, and the necessary paperwork.
2. At the security check point they will inspect your CONCENTRATOR, so be prepared to show the CONCENTRATOR, accessories, and the paper work.
3. At the airport try to use AC power as much as possible to maintain your batteries at a fully charged status for the airline flight.

## **Boarding the plane**

1. The pilot or the flight crew may request to see the CONCENTRATOR and the Physicians statement. They will want to know when you will be using the CONCENTRATOR on the flight, and what flow rate (LPM) you will be using.
2. The flight crew may want to verify that the CONCENTRATOR is FAA approved for commercial airlines. This is for safety reasons.
3. Be advised that you are not permitted to sit in an exit row if your intent is to use the CONCENTRATOR during flight.
4. When the CONCENTRATOR is not in use, stow it securely out of the way, so it does not block the row or aisle access.
5. If you are going to use the CONCENTRATOR during flight, you must sit in a seat that does not block emergency or regular exit.
6. No smoking is allowed within a 10 foot radius of the CONCENTRATOR.

## **On the plane**

1. You can only use the CONCENTRATOR the times that are listed on Your Physicians Statement. When not in use it must be stowed securely.
2. Do not use petroleum based products when using the CONCENTRATOR. Only use creams approved to be used with oxygen.
3. External batteries must be carried on the plane with you, and stowed securely to the CONCENTRATOR, or in your carryon luggage. The batteries must be protected from damage and external shorting.
4. When the "fasten Seat Belt Light "is off cabin, you can move about the cabin if your Physicians statement approves it.
5. If the CONCENTRATOR alarms during flight, and cannot be reset, the CONCENTRATOR must be turned off and stowed securely.
6. If available during flight, connect the CONCENTRATOR to an AC outlet. If you have trouble connecting the CONCENTRATOR to AC power, ask the flight attendants for assistance.

**When Deplaning**

1. Recharge the batteries of the CONCENTRATOR as soon as possible, to ensure that you have adequate power to travel away from the airport.
2. If necessary contact a medical oxygen provider to obtain supplemental oxygen.
3. Always plan ahead for your oxygen needs, and have a safe trip.

# Air Travel with the Precision Medical Inc. Portable Oxygen Concentrator

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Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFAR) 106 of the Federal Aviation Administration which became effective Aug 11, 2005 permits passengers to use certain portable oxygen Concentrators (CONCENTRATOR) devices on commercial aircraft.

The Precision Medical CONCENTRATOR has been approved by the FAA in SFAR 106 for use on board aircraft with specific air carries and patient requirements.

This Physician's medical statement is required under SFAR 106, section 3(b)(i-iii) for patients requiring supplemental oxygen while on board an aircraft. This statement must be carried with the patient at all times and be available for inspection upon boarding the aircraft, or on demand by an air carrier representative. This statement must be completed and signed by a licensed physician.

## Physicians Statement

**Patient Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **D.O.B.** \_\_\_\_\_

I verify the following conditions and requirements for the patient in my care:

The oxygen flow setting for the CONCENTRATOR is \_\_\_\_\_ and may be increased to a maximum flow value of \_\_\_\_\_ as needed, depending upon possible changes in cabin pressure during the flight.

The CONCENTRATOR is medically necessary during the following portions of the flight: ( )  
intermittently, during flight, but not during taxi, takeoff, or landing.

- Continuously, but only during the portions of the flight when other common electronic devices are authorized.
- Continuously, during all portions of the flight, including taxi takeoff, and landing.
- The patient and/or the traveling companion can properly see, hear, understand, and respond to all cautions, warnings, and alarm conditions of the CONCENTRATOR.
- The patient may travel on a commercial aircraft without likelihood of medical risk to their health or requiring extraordinary medical assistance.
- The patient understands that he/she is responsible for having enough battery power for the estimated flight time, plus any unexpected delays.
- The patient understands the air carrier is not responsible for providing batteries, on board power, or related equipment.

Physician's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Signature \_\_\_\_\_